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SPRING RAIN DIARY PART A

TRANSLATIONS - HATSUMIMI
EDITOR - KIM

While waiting for a friend to show up,
Tiny drop,
after tiny drop,
it started to sprinkle.
of spring rain.
MOMOSE MADOKA?

SPRING RAIN DIARY

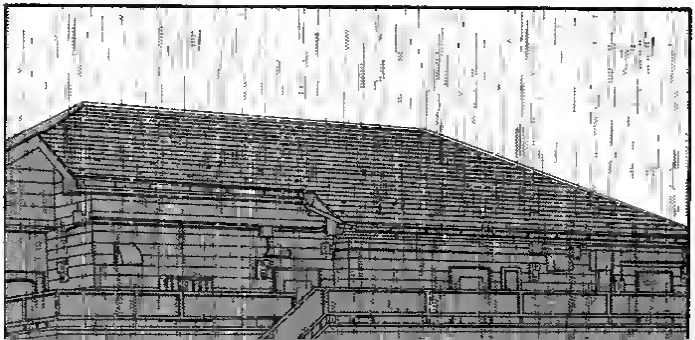
PART A

MOMOSE MADOKA?
I'M OGIWARA
YOSHIDA SETSUKO ASKED ME TO COME AND GET YOU.
Huh?
I'm plain, skinny and often mistakened for an elementary school boy,
but I'm a 15 year old girl.

She was a bit chubby and shy
At least that's how I remembered her. . .
Judging by this conversation though. . .
SHALL WE GO?
Oh! Um...
HEY, CAN WE SHARE YOUR UMBRELLA?
I DIDN'T BRING MINE SINCE IT WASN'T RAINING MUCH WHEN I LEFT
It's been a year since we've met.
Setsu and I were in the same 5th and 6th grade class.
HM?
BEEP BEEP BEEP
What did Setsu say?
UM... WELL I GUESS YOU COULD CALL HIM MY BOYFRIEND?
What do you mean, come over...? Who is this guy?!
Um, wait! Setsu-chan?!
Spaced out~
OH AND DON'T FORGET TO DROP BY THE CONVENIENT STORE AND GRAB SOME SNACKS
See you later
OH DID YOU MEET OGIWARA? I'M AT HIS HOUSE RIGHT NOW SO COME ON OVER
HEY MADOKA, I'M REALLY SORRY! YOU SEE, I WAS TOO LAZY TO GO OUT IN THE RAIN
UH...

And now I'm heading over to this guy's place.
Some guy I don't know comes to pick me up, and she says that's her boyfriend.
But was that call and message just now really from her?
Come to think of it, Setsu-chan was really pushy yesterday about us meeting...
Is it really a good idea... to follow him?
COME CLOSER SO YOU WON'T GET WET.

I wonder what's waiting for me at the end of this road?
My heart is racing.
It's beating faster and faster.



There's no beer!
YOU'RE ONLY FIFTEEN, YOU SHOULDN'T BE ASKING FOR BEER IN THE AFTERNOON!
But I'm meeting Madoka after such a long time, and I want to at least give her a toast!
LOOK, THAT DEA...
SETSU-CHAN!
Wow...
You've become so pretty!
But, wait...
WHY NOT?
I DIDN'T BUY ANY...
Oh, Setsu-chan really is here..
Phew...

This Ogi person happens to be living alone due to his parents' job transfer.
I LOST 15 KILOS IN THREE MONTHS
Anni, I really want to give her a toast, Ogi!
Alright, already! I'll go and buy some.
Did you know Hana? She called your girl friend pretty.
AND THEN I BECAME DEVOTED TO MAKE-UP...
ONCE I LOST WEIGHT, PICKING OUT CLOTHES STARTED TO BECOME FUN.
I knew which school he was from because he wore his uniform at the festival.
WHEN I FINALLY HAD ENOUGH CONFIDENCE, I WAITED FOR OGI IN FRONT OF HIS SCHOOL AND ASKED HIM OUT.
WOW... WHY SO SUDDEN?
AND IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
LAST YEAR, OGI CAME WITH A FRIEND TO OUR SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

HUH?!

I BARGED IN HERE AND DID DIRTY THINGS TO HIM RIGHT THEN AND THERE.

HE WANTED TO START OUT AS FRIENDS BUT...

CLACK

OH~ WELCOME BACK, OGI! ♡

I'M BACK

That timid Setsu-chan...

Wow, what a suprise...

I got hungry, that's why.

Wow, thanks! There are a ton of snacks too!

HUH?

OH.

Um... I guess I can...

did dirty things...

and this guy

MADOKA-CHAN, DO YOU DRINK BEER?

When she was chubby, she must have lost her confidence and wasn't able to express herself...
but this is probably her being natural.
Of course I'm shocked that Setsu-chan has changed,
CHEEEEERS!
Yuck...
Or is this for the sake of love?
I don't really get it!
But it's got nothing to do with me anyway.
I've never even fallen in love with anyone.
He passed one to me.
He called me Madoka-chan...
Weird, I haven't been called that since kinder-garten.
OH, BY THE WAY,
I NEED YOU TO DO ME A FAVOR

UH-HUH..
WHAT IS IT?
OGI, THIS GIRL GOT ACCEPTED TO FIRST HIGH LAST YEAR.
WAIT, HOW DO YOU KNOW?
Did I mention it?
A MESSAGE He, SENT BY he, WIND
WOW, SO YOU'VE GOT BRAINS, MADOKA-CHAN.
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, YOU'RE GOING TO THE SAME PLACE.
HUH?
YOU'RE ATTENDING FIRST HIGH TOO?
GOING ON MY SECOND YEAR.
Uh-huh, so looks aside, he's pretty smart.
The same could be said here too.
ANYWAY,
I THOUGHT YOU COULD KEEP AN EYE ON OGI FOR ME.
WHAT?!
WELL, I NEVER KNOW WHAT GOES ON IN-SIDE YOUR SCHOOL!

OGI MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT HE'S VERY POPULAR
"May not look it...?" You're the one that fell in love at first sight.
PLUS, HE CAN BE RANDOM AT TIMES.
WELL, YOU COULD ALMOST SAY IT'S A REQUIREMENT NOT TO TRUST HIM!
She asserted it
YOU'RE NUTS.
MADOKA-CHAN WON'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
Yay! I love you, Madoka!
HUH
I'LL TELL YOU IF I CATCH HIM DOING ANYTHING STRANGE
THE PERSON MOST EXCITED OVER BEER,
ENDS UP BEING THE FIRST TO PASS OUT...
SHE CAN'T HOLD HER LIQUOR.
Your face is red too

STARE
UH... IT'S JUST THAT I HARDLY SEE GUYS.
WASN'T YOUR JUNIOR HIGH CO-ED?
Gaze
Gawk
Ogle
UM .. I NEVER REALLY TALKED TO ANY BOYS,
SINCE I'VE NEVER HAD THE CHANCE TO LOOK UP CLOSE LIKE THIS
So I'm a rare species?
NATURALLY.
Woah, you're growing a moustache
How funny. But when you look at it closely, it's kind of gross
.....
I
KNOW YOUR WAY?
OKAY.
WELL, I'LL BE GOING NOW.
YEAH, I DO.
Rup
WHAT IS IT?

Unexpectedly, I haven't had this much fun in a while.

Somehow,

I guess it's because my heart was beating just a little bit faster than usual.

Some nameless fuzzy thing,

is tickling me with excitement.

I wonder what it is?

This was
been
one
strange
day...

During that time, Setsu-chan had become a whole different person...

I was studying so hard for my high school entrance exams, I didn't even notice that her calls had stopped coming all of a sudden.

Setsu-chan and I silently inhabited the classroom.

In grade school, dubbed Scrawny and Fatty,

CLACK
aha ha ha
THAT'S CRAZY!
MOMOSE, AT LEAST COME TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR HAIR COMBED!

OH, YEAH, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE CLOTHES YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT THE OTHER TIME?
I SPLURGED ALL MY MONEY AND BOUGHT IT!
OH, MY GOD, THIS IS BAD! OH, MY GOD, MY CHIN.
LET ME BORROW YOUR LIP GLOSS, YAMADA-CHAN.
EWW.
NO WAY!
HEY, DO MY BANGS LOOK WEIRD?
I HEARD THAT PLATYPUS' ARE POISONOUS
NO WAY MAMMALS AREN'T LIKE THAT
AWW, YOU FORGOT THE CD AGAIN, OGI?
YOU GOT ME ALL HYPED UP WHEN YOU SAID YOU'D LET ME BORROW IT.
JUST BUY IT ALREADY
WHAT A JERK!
DON'T SWEAT IT, HE'S THAT KIND OF GUY.

HE FORGETS PEOPLES' NAMES RIGHT AWAY,
BUT GOES UP TO TALK THEM LIKE NORMAL
YO~
IT'S BEEN A MONTH?
...YO~
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU'RE SOAKING WET
YEAH...
I WAS TRYING TO FIX MY HAIR
Sasshi Sasshi
ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU NORMALLY DO BEFORE LEAVING HOME? OR IN THE BATHROOM?

OH...

That's all you've got to say?
AHHHHHHHHHH~!
Cell-Phone Brush
After all I did
!!
RUB
RUB
RUB
RUB
Ahhh!

Tap
FINISHED.
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
OH... THANKS
FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YOU DURING SCHOOL
DON'T TELL ME YOU STILL HAVEN'T MADE ANY FRIENDS?
WILL YOU BE OKAY?
A LUNCH-BOX...?
YOU'RE GONNA EAT ALONE?
HUH? WELL, YEAH...

Or is it because you like being by yourself?
HM?
WHEN SOMEONE SAYS IT OUT LOUD, I START FEELING LIKE I WON'T BE OKAY
OH, ABOUT TODAY
She seems more normal than I thought.
BOW
THEN I APOLOGIZE.
OH,
BOW
WELL THEN, I'll be going.
NO, NOT AT ALL

YOU SHOULD COME OVER AGAIN.
DIDN'T SETSU TEXT YOU ABOUT IT?
OKAY, I'LL GO
IF SETSU SAYS IT'S ALRIGHT, THEN IT'S ALRIGHT
OH, BUT I MIGHT BE IN THE WAY...
She practically owns the place.
NO, SHE'S MY GIRLFRIEND'S FRIEND.
So you were watching?
I thought you were into big knockers!
HEY, IS SHE AFTER YOU?

There was even a night where Setsu-chan called me over because she was worried when Ogi-san was out late drinking with sume friends.

And I began going over once a week myself.

It seems that Setsu-chan stays over at Ogi-san's house for about half the week.

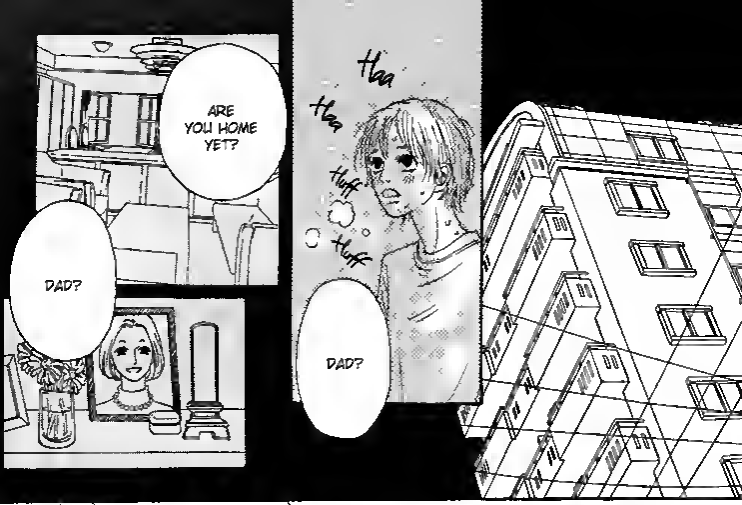
UWAAAAAN
HE'S GOTTA BE CHEATING ON ME! HE'S GOTTA BE CHEATING ON ME!
HE TOLD ME HE'D BE HOME BY ONE, BUT HE STILL HASN'T COME BACK YET!
CLUNK
HEY! WHAT ABOUT AT SCHOOL?! ARE THERE ANY GIRLS THAT HE GETS ALONG WITH?!!
YOU THINK SO? IS OGI-SAN THE TYPE TO CHEAT?
REALLY?!
CAN YOU SWEAR THAT HE'LL NEVER, EVER, EVER DO IT?!
BUT I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYBODY LIKE THAT
HMM... I DON'T SEE HIM AROUND THAT OFTEN,

Apparently, she's head over heels for him.

Setsu-chan doesn't have any qualms about provoking an argument with Ogi-san when I'm around.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?! YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT ME?!
I NEVER SAID ANY-THING LIKE THAT!
THEN WHY DO YOU ALWAYS FORGET THE IMPORTANT STUFF?
Ogi-san always deals with the situation by patch-ing things up.
OKAY, OKAY
IT'S ALL MY FAULT
And touches her gently.
But there would be times where, for just a split second, he would have a terribly annoyed look on his face.
My heart skips a beat whenever it happens.
YOU'RE REALLY LUCKY YOU'VE GOT BRAINS, MADOKA.
YOU GET TO GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL AS OGI!

Faster and faster,
and even faster.
if I'm the lucky one.
I must be seriously ill
LEAVE MADOKA OUT OF THIS.
WHAT? YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND!
MY HOUSE IS ONLY 20 MINUTES AWAY.
Bye!
BUT NOW YOU'RE GOING BY BIKE?
YOU SAID IT'S CONVENIENT NOT HAVING TO CATCH THE LAST TRAIN,

So not only am I luckless in love, but I'm pathetic too.
I'm pedaling to the extreme that I can't at you're doing a couple exchange blows.



Don't tell me that it s sexual desire?

The nameless and fuzzy thing that I feel whenever I'm in that room.

". and did dirty things to him right then and there.
I don't think a day will ever come where I'd end up doing that
I doubt I could even kiss someone.
Just thinking of it,
leaves me feeling empty.
My chest is flat and my legs are skinny as a
The only thing stretching out is my height.
Oh, and my hair's growing longer.

Where should I eat lunch today?
MADOKA-CHAN
I HEARD YOU GO OVER TO HIS PLACE OFTEN
UH... YEAH
BUT IT'S NOT REALLY THAT OFTEN...
AND YOU'RE THE GUY THAT'S USUALLY WITH OGI-SAN CALLED
RIGHT? THAT'S YOU,
MITSUI
IT WAS ONLY LONG AGO
I USED TO STOP THERE A LOT MYSELF.

BUT WE COULDN'T ANY-MORE AFTER YOUR FRIEND BECAME HIS GIRLFRIEND.
SHE BUTTS INTO EVERY-THING, AND IS ALWAYS IN A BAD MOOD!
She's got such a cute face though
GUESS SHE'S OKAY WITH YOU?
I THINK SO...
I'm running out of time to eat...
I SEE.
UM... LUNCH...
UM, YES
My lunch
SURE...
IT'S ALMOST SUMMER VACATION, HUH?
OGI AND HIS GIRLFRIEND AND THE TWO OF US SHOULD GO TO THE BEACH TOGETHER.
...WHAT?

YOU HATE THE BEACH?
HUH?! NOT AT ALL...
He's inviting me out to the beach?!
A co-ed group at the beach?!
HUH?
MITSUI SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

MAYBE HE LIKES YOU?
Oh, count me in, count me in.
WE'RE UP FOR IT.
HH-HUH...
YEP.
MITSUI ALREADY HAS A GIRL-FRIEND.
That's mean.....
NUH-UH. THAT'S IMPOSSI-BLE!
NO WAY, THAT'S IMPOSSI-BLE...
NOTHING WRONG WITH GOING SINCE WE'LL BE THERE
THEN THE BEACH TOO...
Sniff...
OH, YEAH!
AND HE'S AN IDIOT!
HE'S ALWAYS HORNY!
ANYWAY, DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT GOING OUT WITH HIM
DON'T TELL ME YOU HAD YOUR HOPES UP?
DAMN IT
LET IT GO ALREADY, OGI..

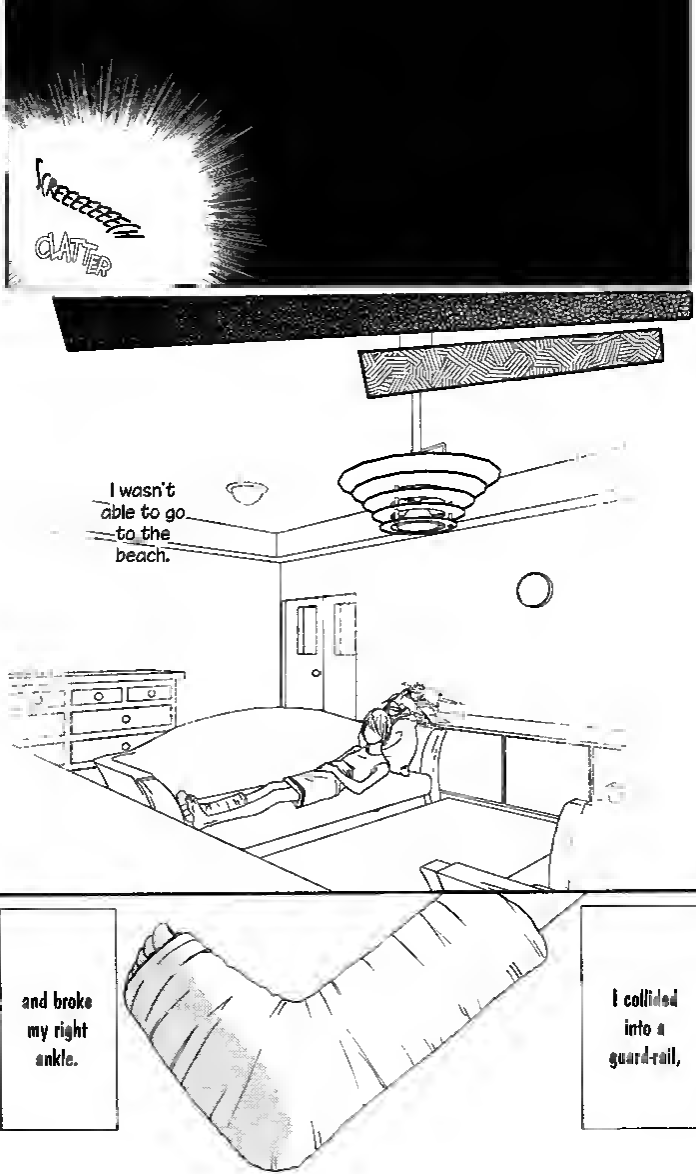
I mean, I've never been asked out that way by a guy before.
I think... I did have my hopes up.
You're such an idiot.
.....
But at least I'll get to go to the beach.
At least that's what I thought.

On the first day of summer vacation when I went to hang out at Ogi-san's apartment,
a dead-drunk Setsu-chan latched onto Ogi-san and kissed him hard.
Noooo waaaay.
SETSU! GEEZ!
HEY, STOP IT. MADOKA'S HERE...
AH!
NGH... NOT OVER THERE!

DON'T FUCKING WATCH!

THEY KISSED, THEY KISSED, THEY KISSED.
RATTLE
Right in front of me...
KTUNK
S...
SORRY...
I'M SORRY!
THUD
SORRY!
CLANK
Haa
Haa
Haa
"DON'T FUCKING WATCH!"
"DON'T FUCKING WATCH!"
Haa
Haa
Haa
.....
OGI...

HEY!
WATCH OUT!
GASP


SCREEEEEECH
CLATTER
I wasn't able to go to the beach.
I collided into a guard-rail,
and broke my right ankle.

IT'S FINE NOW.
Come in, come in
OH, MY GOD! DOES IT HURT?
Sorry to intrude
ARE YOU OKAY, MADOKA?
WE CAME TO VISIT.
And we brought ice cream too
YEP.
THAT'S ALL?
YOU'VE GOT A BIG HOUSE.
WHO'S IN YOUR FAMILY?
MY DAD

"Will you be okay?"

IS THAT ALL YOU'VE GOT TO SAY?
HMM.

"When someone says it out loud, I start feeling like I won't be okay."

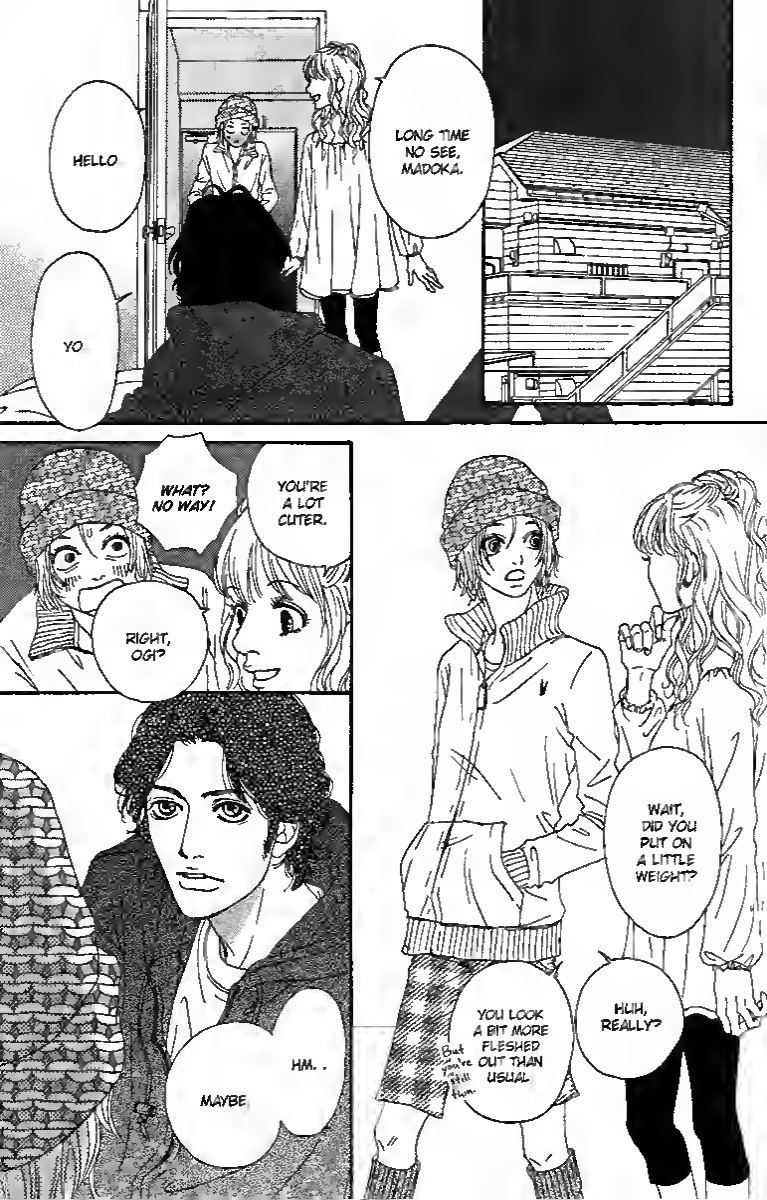
Summer vacation's almost over.
Aww, man.

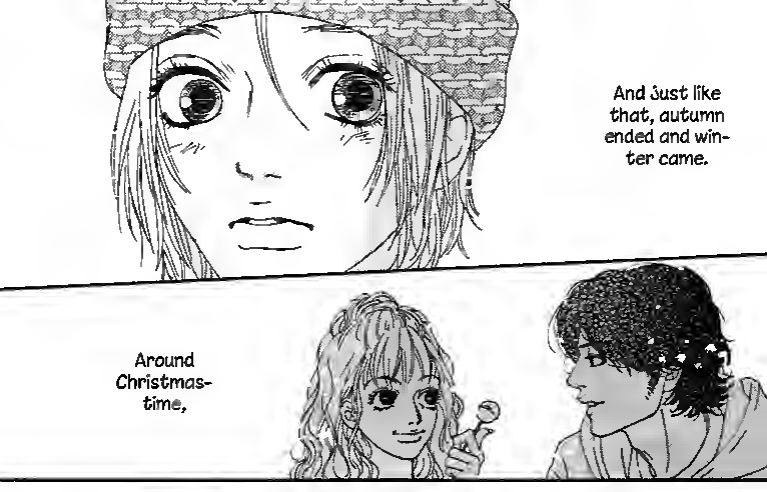
During summer vacation, Seisa-chan came to visit four times, and Ogi tagged along twice.
The last time I saw them, they both had on a good tan.

It's over...

¥120
¥120
¥120
¥120
¥120
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN COMING OVER AT ALL LATELY.
DIDN'T SETSU TEXT YOU?
I've just been studying... ever since my grades dropped.
I-I'll go!
WHIRL
WHIRL
WHIRL

SUPER-LUMPY IKURA JUICE!
BEEP
KTUNK
I'LL GO OVER SOMETIME SOON
HM
I
WELL, SEE YOU LATER


HELLO
YO
LONG TIME NO SEE, MADOKA.
WHAT? NO WAY!
YOU'RE A LOT CUTER.
RIGHT, OGI?
HM. .
MAYBE
WAIT, DID YOU PUT ON A LITTLE WEIGHT?
HUH, REALLY?
YOU LOOK A BIT MORE FLESHED OUT THAN USUAL
But you're still slim



after she found out that Ogi-san had cheated on her,

Setsu-chan disappeared.

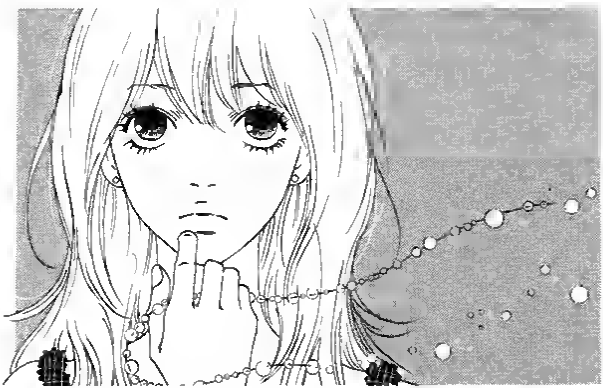
BROUGHT TO YOU BY
STILETTO HEELS

SPRING RAIN DIARY
PART B

TRANSLATIONS - HATSUMIMI
EDITOR - KIM

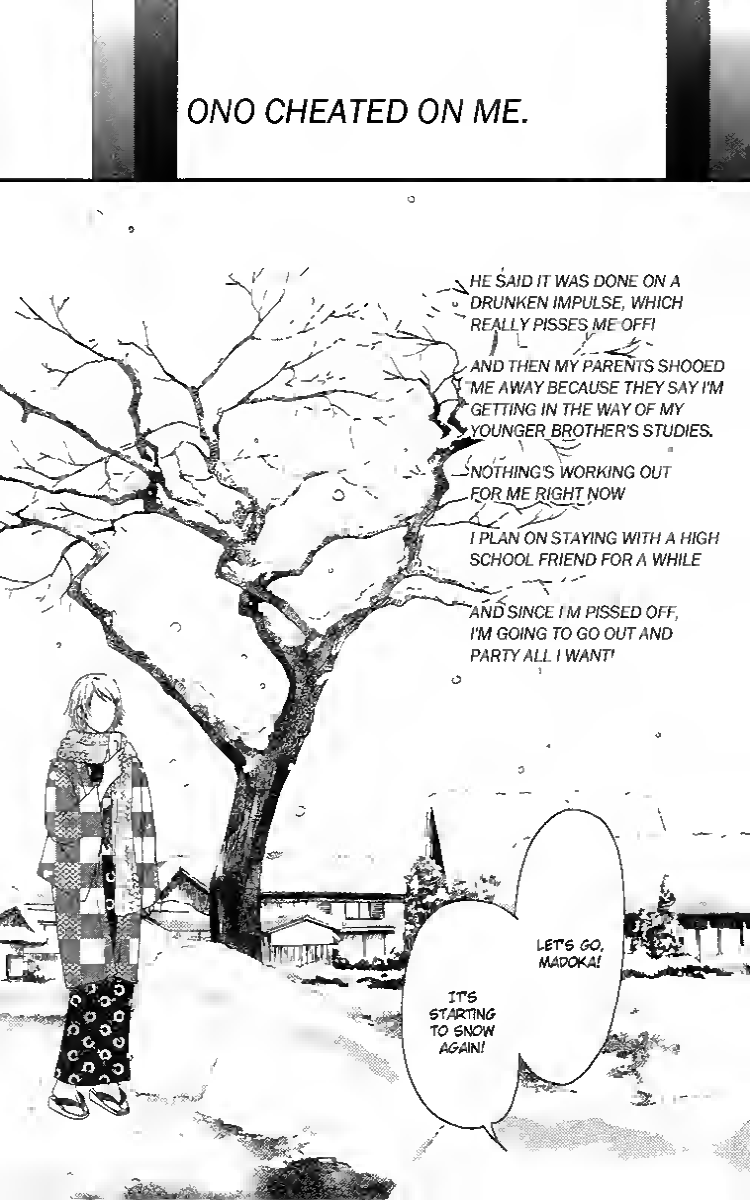
VISIT US AT STILETTOHEELSTEAM.COM

SPRING RAIN DIARY
さめ日記



CLAP
CLAP
This year, I pray once again that everyone will remain healthy,
and that dad will cut back on work just a little,
and that my grades will go up,
and that I'll get to hang out a lot with Setsu-chan and Ogi-san.
MADOKA!
GRANDMA'S GETTING COLD AND WANTS TO HURRY BACK HOME!

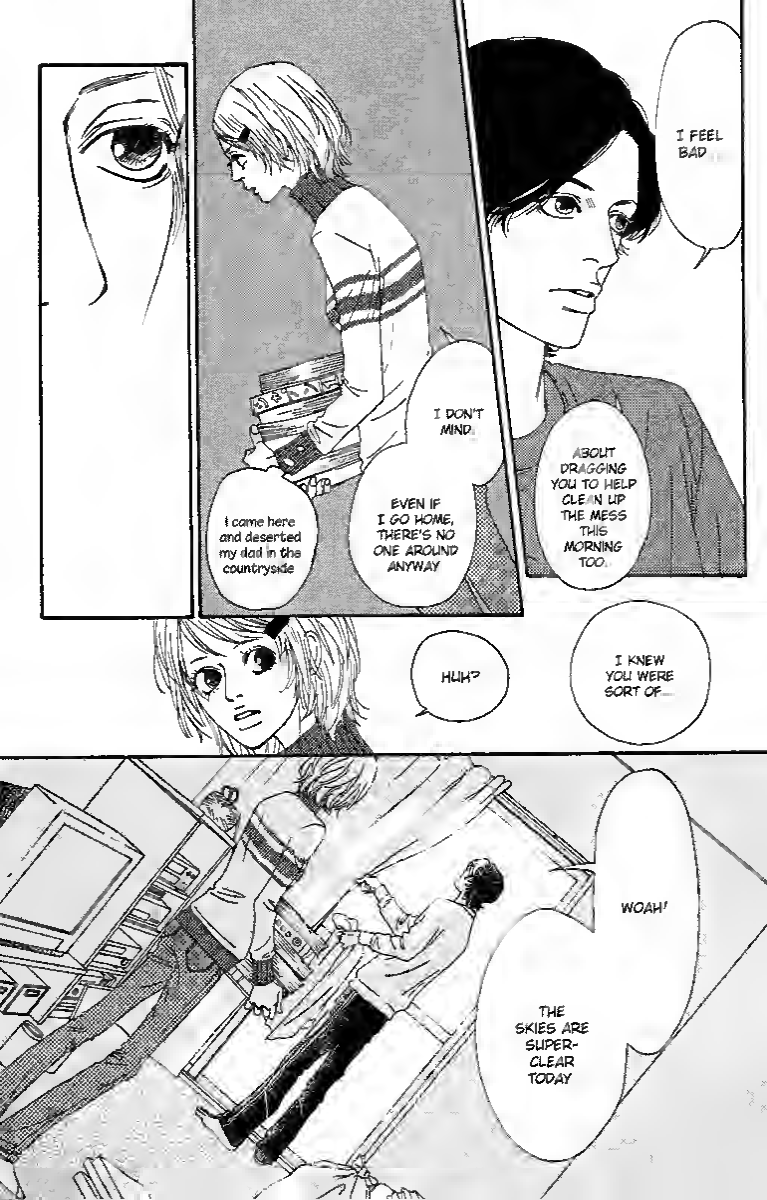
"DON'T FUCKING WATCH!"
THROB
And I pray that he won't hate me.
MOM, WHY AREN'T YOU WEARING THE COAT THAT I SENT YOU?
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'D WEAR SUCH AN OUTRAGEOUS THING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE?
It's fine not to wear!
THIS AREA IS WHERE ALL THE GORGEOUS, HIGH CLASS DESIGNS ARE SOLD, YOU KNOW.
YOUR COMPANY PROBABLY SELLS FAKES.
What? Don't be mean!
Oh, there's a text from Setsuchan.


ONO CHEATED ON ME.
HE SAID IT WAS DONE ON A DRUNKEN IMPULSE, WHICH REALLY PISSES ME OFF!
AND THEN MY PARENTS SHOOED ME AWAY BECAUSE THEY SAY I'M GETTING IN THE WAY OF MY YOUNGER BROTHER'S STUDIES.
NOTHING'S WORKING OUT FOR ME RIGHT NOW
I PLAN ON STAYING WITH A HIGH SCHOOL FRIEND FOR A WHILE
AND SINCE I'M PISSED OFF, I'M GOING TO GO OUT AND PARTY ALL I WANT!
LET'S GO, MADOKA!
IT'S STARTING TO SNOW AGAIN!

WOW, A KIMONO
GUESS IT'S NEW YEARS
Already the 4th
GRANDMA WANTED ME TO WEAR IT FOR THE FIRST SHRINE VISIT...
HUH? OH, YEAH DIDN'T YOU MENTION SOMETHING ABOUT GOING TO YOUR GRANDMA'S IN THE COUNTRYSIDE FOR WINTER BREAK?
WOAH...
YEAH, BUT THEN I GOT A TEXT FROM SETSU-CHAN!
AND I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET A HOLD OF HER SINCE
SO I RUSHED OVER...
I THOUGHT MAYBE IT WAS A JOKE.
BUT THEN I COULDN'T REACH YOU EITHER...

Thump
Thump
Thump
Thump
Thump
ISN'T SHE AMAZING?
ONLY TOOK HER FIVE MINUTES GET IT LIKE THIS
Why?
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SAY ANY-THING?
Why?
YOU HEARD ABOUT IT FROM SETSU RIGHT?
NOT GOING TO CALL ME AN ASSHOLE OR A JERK?

He felt like going somewhere else.
For some reason, he suddenly didn't want to go back.
To the apartment where Setsu-chan was waiting for him.
He was heading home after drinking with his friends the night before.
The other woman in question was just a passing chance acquaintance.
"Ahaha."
"I'm a bit tipsy myself."
"Are you drunk?"
"Are you okay? What are you doing sitting here?"
When he returned home in the morning,
Setsu-chan immediately found out.
Changed outfits
How could something like that happen just by exchanging that many words?
I really don't get it.


I FEEL BAD
ABOUT DRAGGING YOU TO HELP CLEAN UP THE MESS THIS MORNING TOO.
I DON'T MIND.
EVEN IF I GO HOME, THERE'S NO ONE AROUND ANYWAY
I came here and deserted my dad in the countryside
HUH?
I KNEW YOU WERE SORT OF...
WOAH!
THE SKIES ARE SUPER-CLEAR TODAY

So he doesn't care if their relationship ends?
Isn't Ogi-san worried about Setsu-chan at all?
Who cares about the weather right now...
Doesn't he regret what he did?

Even when winter break ended, Setsu-chan was still missing. She doesn't pick up her calls, and she hasn't gone to school.

SETSU'S CALLED US SEVERAL TIMES,

BUT SHE ONLY SAYS SHE'S HANGING OUT WITH FRIENDS AND WON'T TELL US WHERE SHE IS.

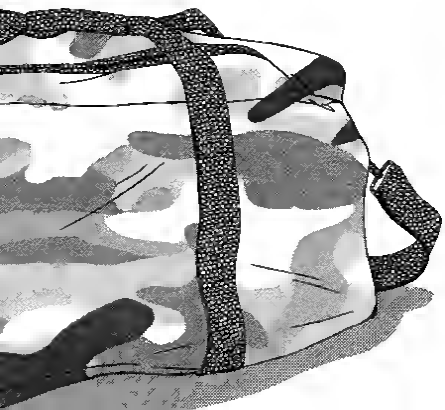
Setsu-chan, I feel sorry for your mom. Why are you making her worry like that?

I don't even know where to start looking.

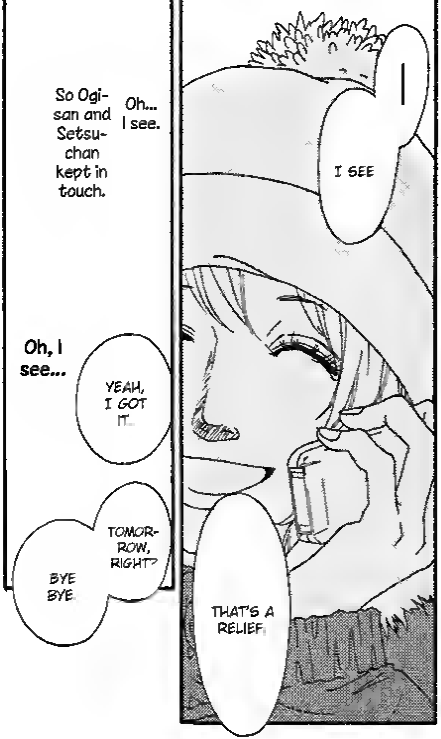
I'm sorry, Dad.
GRAB
PING
Ring...
Ring...
This is unbearable.
I don't know why, but it's really unbearable.
CLATTER
I'll go on a journey in search of her,
and I won't come back until she's found.
I'll hunt all over Japan if I have to...
SHUFF
SHUFF
It's intolerable.
I mean, things can't go back to normal like this.
I'll take mom's picture to...

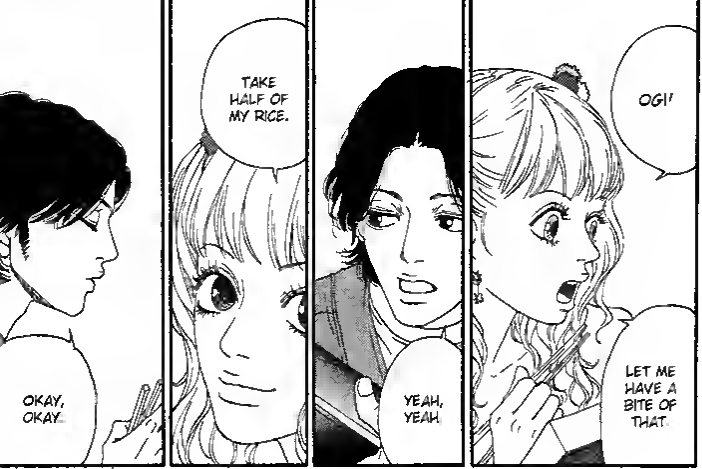
Oh, it's Ogi-san.
Your girl-friend's missing, yet how can you still come to school and laugh as if nothing happened?
I'm at my wit's end here.

HEY, MADOKA! SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY.
JUST SO YOU KNOW, I CAME HOME.
YOSHIDA SETSUKO
080xxxxxxx
HELLO?
I'VE BEEN TEXTING OGI
ALMOST EVERYDAY
I HEARD THAT OGI WAS TRYING TO GET INFORMATION FROM NISHIJO TODAY
AND THAT HE GOT INTO SOME FIGHT WHILE SNOOPING AROUND
SOUNDS UNREAL. HUH? HAHAHA.
ALL I SENT WERE ANGRY MESSAGES THOUGH
I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT AT FIRST.
BUT THEN I SPOTTED HIM ONE TIME
HE REALLY WAS LOOKING FOR ME.
YESTERDAY, HE WROTE IN THE LAST PART OF HIS MESSAGE THAT HE FELT LIKE "GIVING UP ALREADY."
SO I FIGURED I'D BETTER CALL IT QUITS AND COME BACK

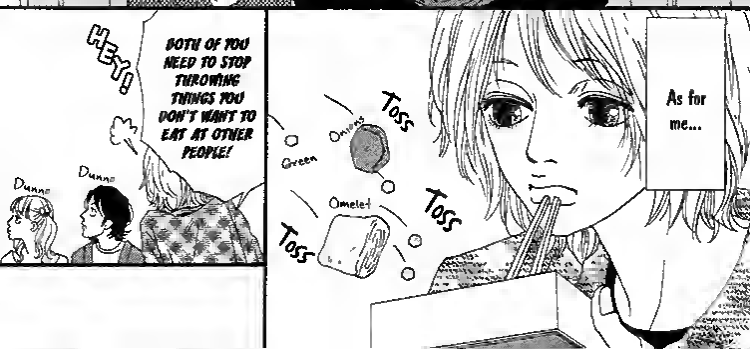


In the corner of my mind, I knew that I was just an afterthought.




OGI!
LET ME HAVE A BITE OF THAT.
TAKE HALF OF MY RICE.
YEAH, YEAH.
OKAY, OKAY.

They were completely back to normal.


HEY!
BOTH OF YOU NEED TO STOP THROWING THINGS YOU DON'T WANT TO EAT AT OTHER PEOPLE!
Dunno
Dunno
As for me...
Toss
Omelet
Green
Omelet
Toss
Toss

As for me, I feel...

I feel somewhat...

MADOKA-CHAN?

MY HOUSE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER.

DO YOU COME HERE A LOT?

MITSUI-SAN.

Whoa!

YOU'RE TAKING A WALK AT THIS HOUR? THAT'S DANGEROUS.

AND SORT OF JUST ENDED UP HERE...

NO. I WAS OUT FOR A WALK TODAY

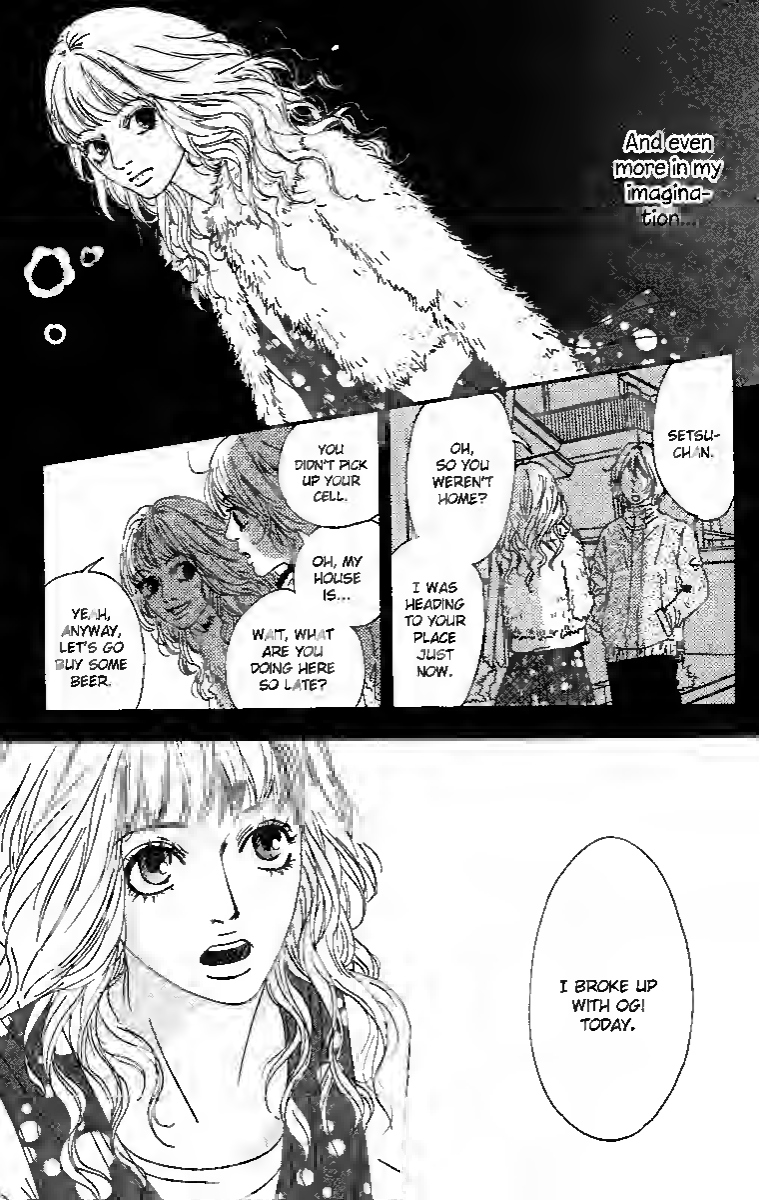
I'M FREE, SO HOW ABOUT I TAKE YOU HOME?

.....

AND YOU'VE HAD SEX TOO, RIGHT?
YOU'VE KISSED SOMEONE BEFORE, RIGHT?
YES?
WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE?
EXCUSE ME?
...SO YOU'VE NEVER DONE IT?
NOT EVEN KISSING?
I DON'T HAVE ANY LUCK WITH GUYS. NEVER
It feels good.
WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE? UH...
SETSU-CHAN AND OGI-SAN KISSED IN FRONT OF ME BEFORE.
MITSUI-SAN?

Well, judging by our first encounter...
But I forgot about it...
HEY, BUT YOU'RE PRETTY CUTE I EVEN ASKED YOU OUT TO THE BEACH, REMEMBER?
CAN YOU KISS ME?
MITSUI-SAN
HUH?!
OH, YOU DON'T WANT TO SINCE YOU ALREADY HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND, HUH?
SORRY FOR ASK-ING SUCH A WEIRD FAVOR.
AH! I DON'T HAVE ONE! I DON'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND RIGHT NOW!
SO YOU WON'T MIND IF I KISS YOU?

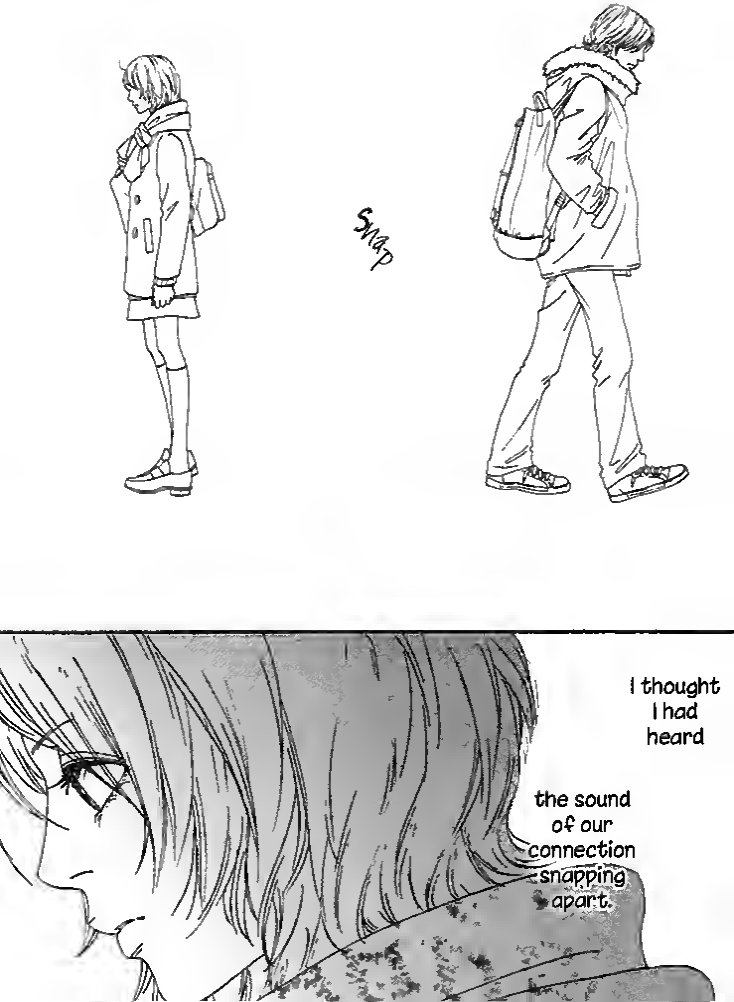
MAN, YOU'RE SERIOUSLY CUTE, MADOKA-CHA...
THUD
THANK YOU. AND GOOD NIGHT!
Oh.
Click
So that's what kissing is all about.
My heart was racing much faster during my high school entrance exam.
And it was racing even more while I was watching Setsu-chan and Ogi-san kiss.


And even more in my imagination...
SETSU-CHAN.
OH, SO YOU WEREN'T HOME?
I WAS HEADING TO YOUR PLACE JUST NOW.
YOU DIDN'T PICK UP YOUR CELL.
OH, MY HOUSE IS...
WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE SO LATE?
YEAH, ANYWAY, LET'S GO BUY SOME BEER.
I BROKE UP WITH OGI TODAY.

Huh?
I HAVE A NEW BOY-FRIEND.
I MET HIM WHEN I RAN AWAY FROM HOME.
HE SAID THAT HE ALWAYS LIKED ME.
WE'RE KIND OF SIMILAR IN SOME WAYS
MAYBE IT'S THE DESPERATION OR OUR TENSION
Hahaha
BUT OGI-SAN WAS LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU DESPERATELY TOO, RIGHT?!
YEAH, THAT'S WHY
I LOVE OGI, SO I DID COME BACK
BUT BASICALLY, THERE'S THIS PART OF OGI THAT JUST SHRUGS THINGS OFF LIKE HE DOESN'T CARE
HE WAS ALWAYS LIKE THAT, EVEN WHEN WE FIRST STARTED DATING TOO

There would be times where for a split second he would have a terribly annoyed look on his face.
HE DOESN'T GET ANGRY, EVEN WHEN I BLOW A FUSE FOR NO REASON OR CHECK HIS CELL PHONE WITHOUT PERMISSION.
WHEN HE'S LIKE THAT WITH ME, IT MAKES HIM SEEM COLD INSTEAD.
I GUESS I WAS LONELY BEING WITH OGI.
EVEN WHEN I CAME BACK... I FELT THE SAME.
I HAVE FUN BEING WITH MY NEW BOYFRIEND.
HE'S A MORON, BUT WE HAVE SO MUCH FUN.

I HEARD.
YOU HEARD?
MORNING.
MORNING.
THERE YOU HAVE IT
WELL.

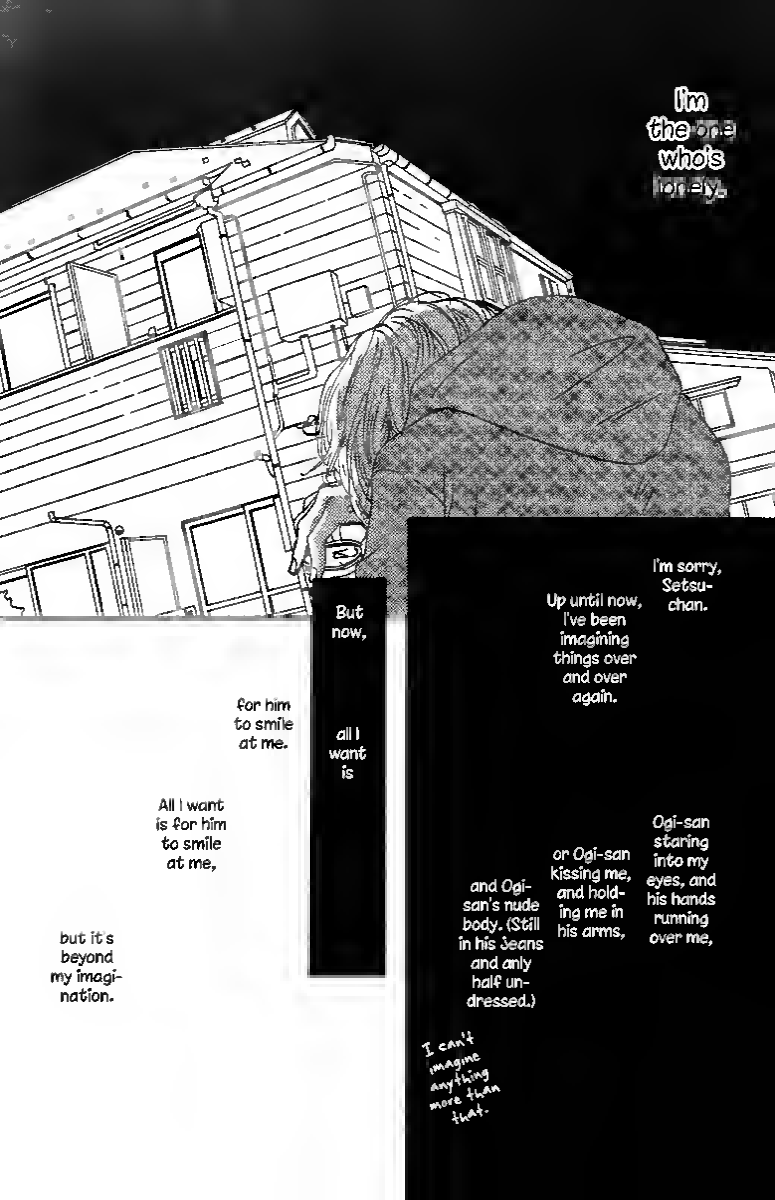

SNAP
I thought I had heard
the sound of our connection snapping apart.

I met Setsu-chan's new boyfriend.
I
NICE TO MEET YOU, AND BEST REGARDS!!
H-HELLO! MY NAME IS MINAMI!
He seemed like a nice guy.
BU HA HA HA
S-SHUT UP!
HIS EYES ROLLED BACK IN THEIR SOCKETS WHEN HE MET MY PARENTS
WELL, THAT'S BECAUSE I DON'T WANT THEM TELLING YOU TO DUMP ME AFTERWARDS!
THIS GUY HERE GETS SUPER NERVOUS EVERY TIME I INTRODUCE HIM TO A FRIEND
And because of that, she apologized for not being able to see me as much as before.
I bet her parents were dead-worried when she was dating Ogi-san...
but Setsu-chan did mention it being more fun now that both of their parents had become friends.
They weren't able to find much time alone back at their parents' houses (almost all high school students have the same problem),
Balcony

Ogi-san,

are you feeling lonely?

"Madoka-chan, do you drink beer?"
Dull beer
And it was the first time that someone handed me my first can of beer.
That was the first time a guy actually called me "Madoka-chan."
But
there's no excuse for me to go inside.
Sniff
Sniff
The lights are on.
Ogi-san must be inside.


I'm the one who's lonely.
I'm sorry, Setsu-chan.
Up until now, I've been imagining things over and over again.
Ogi-san staring into my eyes, and his hands running over me,
or Ogi-san kissing me, and holding me in his arms,
and Ogi-san's nude body. (Still in his jeans and only half undressed.)
I can't imagine anything more than that.
but it's beyond my imagination.
All I want is for him to smile at me,
for him to smile at me.
all I want is
But now,

OGI, WILL YOU QUIT ZONING OUT ALREADY? IT'S BEEN A MONTH SINCE YOU WERE DUMPED
I'M NOT REALLY HUNG UP ON SETSU ANYMORE
TRUTH IS, I TASTED A BIT OF HEART-BREAK MYSELF AROUND THE SAME TIME
YOU KNOW, THAT GIRL NAMED MADOKA-CHAN?
WE KISSED AND EVERY-THING, BUT SHE LEFT ME HANGING AFTER THAT
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT KIND OF SICK JOKE IS THAT?
She's telling the truth!!
SHE'S THE ONE THAT ASKED ME TO, OKAY?
SHE WAS LIKE, "CAN YOU KISS ME?"
SHE MENTIONED SEEING YOU AND YOUR GIRLFRIEND KISSING,
SO MAYBE IT WAS OUT OF CURIOSITY?

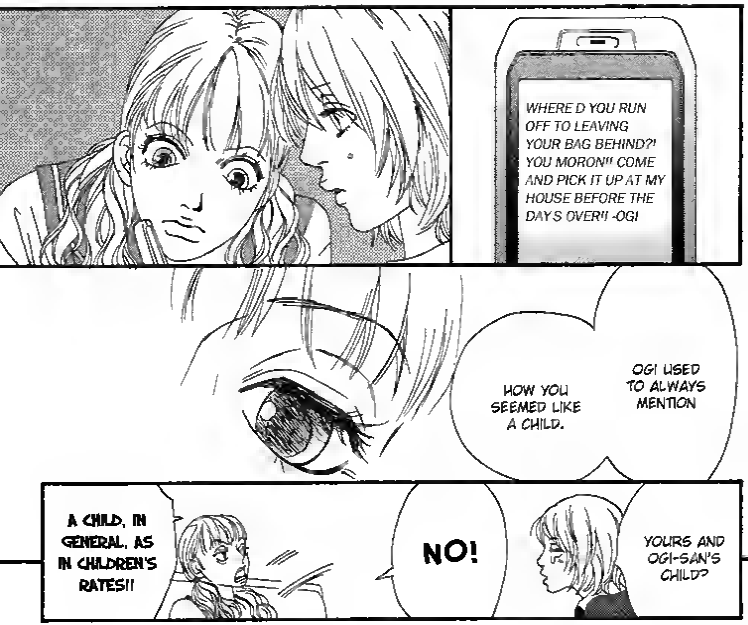
HEY, HOLD ON, OGI.
WHAT HAPPENED? ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
THAT'S...
WHAT...
IT'S NOT LIKE I MEAN ANYTHING TO HER.
.....
THIS IS RIDICU-LOUS...
WAIT
AWW, MAN...
GRRR
HUH?!
DAMN IT, YOU ALREADY HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND...

I don't know why, but it looks like he's seriously glaring at me.
Huh? What?
It's Ogi-san.
Throb...
Oh no! Not that stare again...

THUD
I bet he hates me because I hang out with Setsu-chan.
Even if he doesn't hate her, it's different for an accessory like me...
HUH?
OW...
UM... SORRY...
I have to see Setsu-chan.
That's my only option.
WE USED TO CALL HER SCRAWNY FOUR-EYES IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ISN'T THAT MOMOSE?
HUH? OH, YEAH.
SHE WAS ALWAYS WITH THAT...
FATSO...
THUMP

1-A
SHE'S GONE?
YEAH. SHE LEFT HER BAG BEHIND SINCE 2ND PERIOD.
OH, MAYBE SHE WENT HOME?
I SAW MOMOSE-SAN RUSHING OUT THE GATE.
What the hell is she doing?
HUH?!
YOU WANT TO KNOW IF I HAVE ANY PLANS ON GETTING BACK WITH OGI?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, MADOKA?
OGI DOESN'T EVEN..
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
WHAT ARE SAYING?! I DON'T! NOT AT ALL!
YOU CAN ... WORK SOMETHING OUT ..
Plus I'm happy right now

PLUS... THEY CALL ME FAT WHITE PIGLET.
WHY NOT?
WHAT I FEEL DOESN'T MATTER TO HIM, SO...
BUT SORRY..
Your's was Scrawny Four-Eyes!!
FAT WHITE PIGLET WAS MY NICKNAME!
ANYWAY, STOP THAT! IT WAS A LONG TIME AGO!
DO YOU LIKE OGI?
BESIDES, WHEN THEY USED TO CALL US THAT, UNLIKE ME, YOU DIDN'T GET THAT HUNG UP OVER IT!
Even if she tells me that,
I never imagined that
having someone hate you
and knowing that he'll never like you could be this frightening and painful.
KARATO


WHERE'D YOU RUN OFF TO LEAVING YOUR BAG BEHIND?! YOU MORON!! COME AND PICK IT UP AT MY HOUSE BEFORE THE DAY'S OVER!! -OGI
OGI USED TO ALWAYS MENTION
HOW YOU SEEMED LIKE A CHILD.
YOURS AND OGI-SAN'S CHILD?
NO!
A CHILD, IN GENERAL, AS IN CHILDREN'S RATES!!

HE SAYS THAT JUST LIKE PEOPLE INSTINCTIVELY GET NERVOUS FROM SEEING A CHILD AT AN INTERSECTION,
HE STARTS WORRYING ABOUT YOU EVERY TIME HE SEES YOU
OGI'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL
NO OFFENSE BUT I DIDN'T CONSIDER YOU COMPETITION IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.
SO I WAS REALLY SHOCKED.

WELL, TO BE HONEST... I DON'T KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT THIS.
BUT YOU SHOULD GO
COME ON, GET GOING!
She's late!
She replied that she was coming, so why's she taking so long?!
Fidget
Fidget
Fidget
Fidget

Oh, no... Just like I suspected.
DING DONG
Yo...
Ychak
YO...
This idiot and Mitsui...
COME INSIDE
MY CHEST.

My chest is throbbing hard.
YOUR CHEST?
I
I want to cry.
My heart aches.
It's hard to breathe.
YOUR CHEST?
HAS BEEN DEVELOPING LATELY
WHAT'S COME OVER YOU...
LATELY, I HAVEN'T BEEN MISTAKENED FOR AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOY.
NOT THAT IT AMOUNTS TO ANYTHING
BUT MY CHEST...
I'VE NOTICED...

How can I be so deeply moved...
Just because he sees me as a girl?
Huh?
I DID THINK BEFORE THAT THEY HAD GROWN A BIT
BEFORE I NOTICED IT.
Probably because I was shocked since you were so flat-chested when we first met.
Wait...
ANYWAY, COME INSIDE YOU'RE EMBARASSING ME
Talking about your boobs
Ogi-san,
you were looking at my breasts?
So you've noticed them.
Huh?
What?
Snap

clutch
Nudge nudge
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DUNNO
THWAP
Ow
RUB RUB
Ouch! Ouch!

I'M SERIOUSLY PISSED OFF,
BUT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY I'M LIKE THIS...
OGI-SAN,
LET ME GO
IF YOU DON'T, I'M GOING TO FAINT IN FIVE SECONDS...

On that rainy day,

I shared an umbrella with a boy for the first time in my life.
I was nervous and scared,
and the hand holding the umbrella was so large,
that I couldn't see his profile.
Since that day, my heart has been
beating to an unknown tune.
WAIT!
Huh?!
DON'T SAY "HUH?!"
Ogi-san's heart
is beating really fast.

ARE YOU STILL EATING LUNCH ALONE?
WANNA COME WITH ME?
I'M OKAY
MY CLASS HAS CHANGED SINCE I STARTED MY SECOND YEAR.
THE GIRL THAT SITS NEXT TO ME LOOKS NICE, SO I'LL TRY ASKING HER

SEE YOU
MEET YOU AT THE FRONT GATE AFTER SCHOOL.
OKAY.

YOU IDIOT! I WANTED US TO HAVE LUNCH TOGETHER!
...AWW, MAN.
IS THIS REALLY ME?

FROM ALL U2
PENCIL NECKED GEEKS AT
STIETTO HEELS TEAM
HAPPY
VALENTINES